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SEP 10 1962

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Statistical Reporting Service, U. S. D. A.

Washington, D. C. SS 232

March 27, 1962

Farmers May Change Their Plans

The acreages actually planted in 1962 may turn out to be larger or smaller than indicated here, by reason of weather conditions, price changes, labor supply, financial conditions, agricultural programs, and the effect of this report itself upon farmers' actions.

Prospective Planting For 1962

The Nation's farmers indicate plans, as of March 1, to plant a total of 306 million acres for 1962 harvest, 1.4 percent less than last year according to the Crop Reporting Board. If these plans materialize, the 1962 planted acreage would be the smallest of record. Growers' plans were reported during the sign up period for the 1962 Feed Grain and Wheat Programs. Farmers' intentions to plant corn, sorghum, spring barley and spring wheat may be altered by their decision relative to participation in the 1962 programs. Likewise, winter wheat producers have until the designated plow-down date to decide how much winter wheat acreage to leave for harvest. Spring development of the wheat crop will have an effect in determining the amount of diversion above the mandatory 10 percent cut in allotments.

Crop Acreage About Same As 1961

March 1 planting intentions reports are summarized for 17 crops totaling 261 million acres in the Crop Production Report released March 19. This total is only slightly under the planted acreage

Rundown of Prospective Acreages with Percentage Change, This Year Compared with Last

Crop	Planted 1961	Indicated 1962	Increase or Decrease
Corn, all.....	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
All spring wheat.....	66,965	69,291	+3.5
Durum.....	12,230	10,534	-13.9
Other Spring.....	1,715	2,405	+40.2
Oats.....	10,515	8,129	-22.7
Barley.....	32,521	30,544	-6.1
Flaxseed.....	15,800	15,090	-4.5
Cotton.....	2,949	3,073	+4.2
Rice.....	16,587	16,412	-1.1
Sorghums.....	1,618	1,774	+9.7
Potatoes, all.....	14,366	14,616	+1.7
Sweetpotatoes.....	1,519	1,425	-6.2
Tobacco.....	1,174	1,222	+4.1
Beans, dry edible.....	1,471	1,514	+2.9
Peas, dry field.....	349	346	-9
Soybeans.....	28,131	28,756	+2.2
Peanuts.....	1,559	1,544	-1.0
Hay.....	67,085	67,600	+8
Sugar Beets.....	1,128	1,183	+4.9

for the same crops last year but is 10 percent below the 1951-60 average. Corn shows the largest prospective increase from last year, of 2.3 million acres, although the most spectacular percentage change is shown by durum wheat with a 40 percent jump. Other crops showing larger acreages than last year include all hay, soybeans, sorghum, flaxseed, rice, dry edible beans, tobacco, sugar beets and sweet potatoes. Spring wheat other than durum, and oats lead the acreage declines with drops of 2.4 and 2.0 million acres, respectively. Smaller acreages are also indicated for cotton, barley, peanuts, potatoes, and dryfield peas.

Smaller Total Crop Acreage Expected

Acreage of crops planted or to be planted or grown in 1962 is now expected to total 306 million acres. This is a decline of 4.4 million acres from last year and would be the smallest planted acreage total of record. The indicated total

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Jan. 1962	Feb. 1962	
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.).....ct.	30.44	29.13	39.22
Wheat (bu.).....dol.	1.87	1.88	2.43
Rice (100 lb.).....dol.	5.31	5.45	6.22
Corn (bu.).....dol.	.951	.956	1.60
Peanuts (lb.).....ct.	11.3	12.1	13.5
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.).....ct.	61.0	60.8	76.2
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.).....dol.	4.39	4.31	5.25
Wool (lb.).....ct.	241.1	242.1	73.5
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.).....dol.	1.03	1.04	1.26
Cottonseed (ton).....dol.	50.90	51.50	62.80
Flaxseed (bu.).....dol.	3.14	3.18	3.84
Hay, baled (ton).....dol.	21.60	21.40	25.90
Oats (bu.).....dol.	.665	.648	.842
Potatoes (cwt.).....dol.	1.13	1.11	2.38
Rye (bu.).....dol.	1.02	1.04	1.45
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.).....dol.	1.65	1.67	2.51
Soybeans (bu.).....dol.	2.32	2.32	2.95
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.).....dol.	5.09	5.41	5.98
Oranges, on tree (box).....dol.	2.15	2.26	2.67
Apples, for fresh use (bu.).....dol.	2.38	2.48	2.94
Beef cattle (100 lb.).....dol.	20.70	20.80	23.60
Calves (100 lb.).....dol.	24.70	25.20	26.20
Hogs (100 lb.).....dol.	16.50	16.30	21.60
Lambs (100 lb.).....dol.	16.10	16.30	24.30
Chickens, all (lb.).....ct.	15.3	16.0	24.3
Eggs (dozen).....ct.	35.4	36.2	47.3

¹Preliminary.²Does not include incentive payment.

planted acreage includes the crops covered in the March Intentions survey plus allowances for other crops.

Wheat Crop Acreage Down

Plantings of all spring wheat in the United States for the 1962 crop are expected to total 10.5 million acres. The intended acreage is 14 percent below the acreage planted in 1961 and 35 percent below average.

A total of 49.5 million acres of all wheat is indicated by these intended spring plantings plus winter wheat plantings as estimated last December. This is a decrease of 6.1 million acres or 11 percent from 1961.

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1961			1962	
	Feb.	Year	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Nonfarm employment (civilian) ¹	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Farm employment.....	59.9	61.3	62.0	60.6	61.2
Family	5.3	7.0	5.1	4.7	5.1
Hired	4.3	5.1	4.1	3.9	4.1
	1.0	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.0
Index numbers (1957-59 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	102	109	115	114	115
Total personal income payments ³	110	114	118	118	-
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	98	105	112	108	109
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	106	110	115	113	113
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴ .	101	100	100	101	101
Farm commodities.....	98	96	96	98	98
Food, processed.....	102	101	101	102	102
Consumer price index ⁴	104	104	104	104	--
Food	103	103	102	103	--
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers.....	244	240	240	242	243
Crops.....	221	226	224	224	227
Food grains.....	209	209	219	218	219
Feed grains and hay.....	150	151	150	152	152
Cotton.....	227	259	269	257	246
Tobacco.....	517	524	544	538	543
Oil bearing crops.....	250	257	250	250	253
Fruit.....	260	245	217	209	217
Commercial vegetables.....	210	221	213	252	285
Livestock and products.....	263	251	255	256	257
Meat animals.....	309	299	299	304	305
Dairy products.....	263	259	273	266	264
Poultry and eggs.....	169	146	146	149	154
Prices paid by farmers.....	277	276	277	278	279
All commodities.....	292	291	292	293	294
Used in living.....	267	266	267	268	268
Used in production.....	302	301	302	304	305
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index).....	635	641	635	652	652
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted.....	81	80	79	80	80
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index).....					

¹Bureau of the Census. ²Federal Reserve Board. ³Department of Commerce. ⁴Bureau of Labor Statistics--any figures not available at press time omitted. ⁵1957 = 100.

Feed Grain Acreage Down Slightly

If March 1 planting plans are carried out, the total acreage devoted to the four feed grains--corn, oats, barley and sorghums--would be a fraction of a percent below last year. However, the 129.5 million acres expected for 1962 is 16 percent below the 1951-60 average. Compared with 1961, increases in corn and sorghum acreages almost offset decreases in oats and barley.

Food Grain Acreage 9 Percent Smaller

Total acreage seeded or to be seeded to food grains is 9 percent below the 1961 total and 19 percent below average. Total wheat plantings are indicated at 49.5 million acres, a decline of 11 percent from last year as reductions in winter and other spring wheat overshadowed a sharp rise in durum acreage. Rye seedings are 15 percent above last year and rice acreage is indicated to be 10 percent larger.

Acreage Of Oilseeds Up 1 Percent

Intended acreage of the four oilseed crops for 1962 totals 49.8 million acres--1 percent above last year and 7 percent larger than average. Growers expect to plant the largest soybean acreage of record, 2 percent above last year's high and 42 percent above average. Cotton acreage is expected to be down about 1 percent from 1961.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	January 1961	January 1962
Dairy Production			
Milk.....	Bil. lb.	119.3	119.7
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	141.3	117.7
Dry nonfat milk solids.....	Mil. lb.	149.6	184.5
(for human food).....	Mil. lb.	121.6	144.7
Butter, creamery.....	Mil. lb.	82.8	78.4
Cheese, American.....	Mil. gal.	43.6	45.7
Ice Cream.....			
Poultry Production			
Eggs	Billions	110.1	110.2
Federally inspected slaughter ²			
Chickens.....	Mil. lb.	330.7	340.5
Turkeys.....	Mil. lb.	34.9	33.9
Poultry canned and used in other processed foods.....	Mil. lb.	38.1	39.4
Liquid egg.....	Mil. lb.	31.3	32.1
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	2.0	2.1
Frozen egg.....	Mil. lb.	20.5	20.0
Meat Production (dressed weight) ³			
Beef.....	Mil. lb.	1,234	1,327
Veal.....	Mil. lb.	81	82
Pork.....	Mil. lb.	946	1,016
Lamb and mutton.....	Mil. lb.	72	77
Total red meat.....	Mil. lb.	2,333	2,502

¹January-February.

²Ready-to-cook.

³Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

Citrus Output Above Average

Total production of citrus for the 1961-62 season is expected to be 6 percent greater than last year and almost 2 percent above average, even though late December and January freezes damaged citrus. The Florida orange crop accounts for most of the increase from last year, although lemons in California and Arizona, and grapefruit in Florida, Arizona, and California also show greater production.

Winter Potato Production Up 2 Percent

A higher yield per acre in Florida added nearly 2 percent to the expected winter potato crop. The March 1 estimate, however, is slightly smaller than average and 13 percent less than the 1961 crop.

Spring Sows In 10 States Up 2 Percent

The number of sows farrowed and intended to farrow in the spring of 1962 (Dec. through May) for 10 of the Corn Belt States at 5,540,000 head is 2 percent more than the same period in 1961 but 6 percent below the 1951-60 average. Eight of the 10 States show an increase in spring farrowings compared with a year earlier.

All Hogs And Pigs Up 2 Percent

The number of hogs and pigs on farms March 1, 1962, totaled 41,027,000 head. This number is 2 percent larger than the 40,345,000 head a year earlier. Inventory numbers were the same as March 1, 1961, in Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, while increases in the remaining 7 States ranged from 1 percent in Ohio and Wisconsin to 11 percent in South Dakota.

Sheep And Lambs On Feed Down In 7 States

Sheep and lambs on feed for market in 7 major feeding States totaled 1,491,000 head on March 1, 1962—11 percent below the number on feed in these States a year earlier. This was 39 percent below the 2,454,000 head on feed in these States January 1, 1962. Last year number on feed de-

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1961 average	\$1,060	\$404	\$656	38%
1961 January	1,067	418	649	39%
1961 December	1,047	405	642	39%
1962 January	1,057	409	648	39%

¹Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per family in 1952 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

clined 37 percent between January 1 and March 1. Number on feed on March 1 in Kansas and California were up 25 percent and 23 percent respectively over March 1, 1961. Decreases from a year earlier were 23 percent in Iowa; 20 percent in Texas; 16 percent in South Dakota; 12 percent in Nebraska; and 11 percent in Colorado.

Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings by States, January 1962

State	Livestock and Products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
Maine.....	10,217	4,340	14,557
New Hampshire.....	4,249	632	4,881
Vermont.....	9,407	773	10,180
Massachusetts.....	8,789	2,989	11,778
Rhode Island.....	1,295	550	1,845
Connecticut.....	7,948	3,255	11,203
New York.....	54,753	12,274	67,027
New Jersey.....	13,812	3,626	17,438
Pennsylvania.....	48,774	15,373	64,147
Ohio.....	54,155	28,395	82,550
Indiana.....	64,145	43,150	107,295
Illinois.....	110,067	121,170	231,237
Michigan.....	34,360	22,815	57,175
Wisconsin.....	95,171	12,223	107,394
Minnesota.....	100,619	60,081	160,700
Iowa.....	170,706	151,479	322,185
Missouri.....	59,787	25,175	84,962
North Dakota.....	19,366	27,955	47,321
South Dakota.....	51,275	18,483	69,758
Nebraska.....	69,432	82,696	152,128
Kansas.....	64,898	76,351	141,249
Delaware.....	5,595	824	6,419
Maryland.....	15,168	2,653	17,821
Virginia.....	17,501	11,013	28,514
West Virginia.....	4,836	1,624	6,460
North Carolina.....	23,984	14,073	38,057
South Carolina.....	8,615	7,401	16,016
Georgia.....	32,604	10,258	42,862
Florida.....	18,383	80,946	99,329
Kentucky.....	22,784	43,766	66,550
Tennessee.....	19,576	25,694	45,270
Alabama.....	24,487	9,296	33,783
Mississippi.....	19,447	43,860	63,307
Arkansas.....	17,261	32,602	49,863
Louisiana.....	14,106	21,972	36,078
Oklahoma.....	26,647	32,481	59,128
Texas.....	73,733	187,948	261,681
Montana.....	13,271	18,199	31,470
Idaho.....	16,075	13,590	29,665
Wyoming.....	5,401	2,545	7,946
Colorado.....	30,989	22,775	53,764
New Mexico.....	6,783	10,988	17,771
Arizona.....	10,611	38,090	48,701
Utah.....	10,523	2,171	12,694
Nevada.....	4,226	852	5,078
Washington.....	20,225	21,043	41,268
Oregon.....	17,231	11,557	28,788
California.....	99,009	91,287	190,296
United States.....	1,632,296	1,473,293	3,105,589
Same month, year ago	1,628,720	1,448,408	3,077,128

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

**Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of
Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹**

	January 1962	February 1962
CASH RECEIPTS		
Total marketings and CCC loans ²	Mil dol. 3,105	Mil dol. 2,200
Livestock and products.....	1,632	1,500
Meat animals.....	953	
Dairy products.....	411	
Poultry and eggs.....	232	
Other	36	
Crops.....	1,473	700
Food grains.....	179	
Feed crops.....	448	
Cotton (lint and seed).....	306	
Oil-bearing crops.....	194	
Tobacco.....	76	
Vegetables.....	95	
Fruits and tree nuts.....	99	
Other	76	
Government payments	65	
Grand total.....	3,170	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:		
All commodities.....	1947-49 = 100	
Livestock and products.....	144	102
Crops.....	134	121
	157	77

¹For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ²Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Sheep And Lambs On Feed

In the 7 States the classification of sheep and lambs on feed March 1, by weight groups, was as follows: under 60 pounds, 34,000 head compared with 22,000 last year; 60-79 pounds, 228,000 compared with 205,000 a year earlier; 80-99 pounds, 891,000 compared with 980,000 last year; and 338,000 a year earlier; 100 pounds compared with 461,000 the previous year.

Decrease In Farm Numbers Continues

The number of farms in the United States decreased from 4,105,000 in 1959 to 3,818,000 in 1961, a reduction of 7 percent in the 2-year period. This decrease in number of farms continues the downtrend which started slowly after 1935 and gained speed during the 1950's. Between 1950 and 1959 farm numbers in the then 48 States dropped from 5,648,000 to 4,097,000--down more than one-fourth. The decrease over the entire period from 1950 to 1962 is over one-third.

Decrease In Farm Employment Continues

The February survey week (18-24) gave a farm employment total of 5,135,000 persons, representing a decrease of 3 percent from a year earlier. The number of farm operators and other family members working on farms was 4,140,000, down 3 percent. The number of hired workers, estimated at 995,000 during this survey week, was 2 percent under the comparable week of February 1961.



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